

SOUTH WEST METROPOLITAN
REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

FIRST

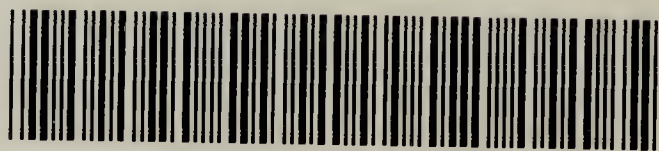
Annual Report

of the

BROOKWOOD HOSPITAL
...
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

(Group 40)

5th JULY, 1948 TO 31st DECEMBER, 1949



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REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

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Annual Report

of the

BROOKWOOD HOSPITAL
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

(Group 40)

5th JULY, 1948 TO 31st DECEMBER, 1949

BROOKWOOD HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

LIST OF MEMBERS

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NO.
<i>Chairman</i>		
MR. E. S. WARREN	Briarfield, Cranleigh, Surrey	Cranleigh 498 <i>Business:</i> Cranleigh 10
<i>Vice-Chairman</i>		
MR. F. G. MATTHEWS	23 Palace Road, East Molesey, Surrey	Molesey 2736
<i>Members</i>		
MR. E. T. CLOSE	Woodcote, Camberley, Surrey	Camberley 223 <i>Business :</i> Camberley 1475
MRS. M. A. CROCKATT	2 Glenmore House, Richmond Hill, Surrey	Richmond 0411
MR. L. G. HIGGINS	Linkwood, Mount Hermon Road, Woking	Woking 105
DR. C. W. JENNER	Cherrimans, Shottermill, Haslemere, Surrey.	Haslemere 186
Mr. J. G. LOWLES	Home Farm, Wentworth, Surrey	Wentworth 3247
MR. A. F. W. MEEN	Pyrford Lodge, West Byfleet, Surrey	Byfleet 343
DR. K. C. L. PADDLE	Norlands, Botley's Park, Chertsey, Surrey	Ottershaw 143
MRS. B. E. REDDING	25 Station Road, Frimley, Surrey	Camberley 422
MR. H. SANDERS	Sanfield, Lancaster Avenue, Farnham, Surrey	Farnham 5955
MR. A. P. TICE	Runfold Farm, Farnham, Surrey	Aldershot 413
MR. H. E. C. WEBB	12 Ewell Court Avenue, Ewell, Surrey	Ewell 3604 <i>Business :</i> Lea Green 2842
MISS D. WEEDING	Tatton, Hook Heath, Woking, Surrey	Woking 2343

BROOKWOOD HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

SUB-COMMITTEES

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES

MR. E. S. WARREN, *Chairman*
MR. E. T. CLOSE
MRS. M. A. CROCKATT
MR. L. G. HIGGINS
DR. C. W. JENNER
MR. J. G. LOWLES
MR. F. G. MATTHEWS
MR. A. F. W. MEEN
DR. K. C. L. PADDLE
MRS. B. E. REDDING
MR. H. SANDERS
MR. A. P. TICE
MR. H. E. C. WEBB
MISS D. WEEDING

ESTABLISHMENT, SUPPLIES & TREATMENT

MR. H. E. C. WEBB, *Chairman*
MRS. M. A. CROCKATT
MR. L. G. HIGGINS
DR. C. W. JENNER
MR. A. F. W. MEEN
DR. K. C. L. PADDLE
MRS. B. E. REDDING
MR. A. P. TICE

Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the
Management Committee, and Chair-
men of Sub-Committees, ex-officio

ESTATES

MR. J. G. LOWLES, *Chairman*
MR. E. T. CLOSE
DR. C. W. JENNER
MR. H. SANDERS
MR. A. P. TICE
MISS D. WEEDING

Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the
Management Committee, and Chair-
men of Sub-Committees, ex-officio

HOUSING

MR. E. S. WARREN, *Chairman*
MR. J. G. LOWLES
MR. H. E. C. WEBB

JOINT STAFF COMMITTEES

NURSING

MR. H. SANDERS, *Chairman*
MRS. M. A. CROCKATT
MR. A. F. W. MEEN
DR. K. C. L. PADDLE
MRS. B. E. REDDING
MR. H. E. C. WEBB

NON-NURSING

MR. H. E. C. WEBB, *Chairman*
MR. J. G. LOWLES
MR. A. F. W. MEEN
MRS. B. E. REDDING
MR. H. SANDERS
MR. A. P. TICE

Two Members of the Management Committee are appointed each month
for Visiting the Hospital and Discharge of Patients.

Chairmen of Sub-Committees are ex-officio members of other Sub-Committees.

LIST OF OFFICIALS

as at 31st December, 1949

BROOKWOOD HOSPITAL

Physician Superintendent and Consultant Psychiatrist :

L. BARBER, M.D., D.P.M.

Deputy Physician Superintendent :

M. K. JOHNSTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M.

Consultant Psychiatrist :

D. C. DEWAR, M.D., D.P.M.

Senior Hospital Medical Officers :

G. H. COLLINS, M.B., Ch.B.

E. S. FOOTE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M.

Junior Hospital Medical Officers :

D. STEWART, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

K. BOBATH, M.D.

Registrars :

R. C. H. COOKE, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

B. A. J. C. GREGORY, M.B., B.Ch.

Chaplain :

REV. H. G. EDMONDS

Secretary, Finance and Supplies Officer :

C. A. EKINS

Deputy Secretary, Finance and Supplies Officer :

E. F. LLOYD

Matron :

MISS M. HOGG, S.R.N., R.M.N.

Chief Male Nurse :

W. H. ARTHUR, R.M.P.A.

Consulting Staff :

Surgeon and Gynaecologist : L. G. HIGGINS, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.O.G.

Ophthalmic Surgeon : A. CADDY, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Ear, Nose & Throat Surgeon : T. B. JOBSON, B.A., M.D.

Radiologist : D. A. IMRIE, M.D., D.M.R.E.

Anæsthetist : A. BARNSLEY, M.A., M.D., D.A.

FOREWORD

by the CHAIRMAN of the
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

At the completion of the first 18 months' work of the Management Committee it has been decided that an Annual Report be presented to show and place on record what is being done at the Brookwood Hospital.

While there are many and varied complexities arising from the administration of such a large hospital the over-crowded state of the Wards for the sick and infirm patients, is giving rise to grave anxiety. Many more senile patients are being admitted than in former years and at the present time 20 per cent. of all the patients in the hospital are over 70 years of age. This is placing a very heavy strain on a depleted nursing staff as so many of these senile patients are bedridden. The admission of the aged to Mental Hospitals, because there is no other hospital accommodation available, not only causes great distress to the relatives of the patient, but places an added burden on Mental Hospitals and utilises accommodation which is urgently needed for the treatment of the early cases of mental illness. It would relieve the strain on the accommodation of the Mental Hospital, and it would also relieve the anxiety of relatives, if Homes for the Aged were provided, where elderly patients, who require little more than nursing care and supervision, could be admitted.

A word of commendation is due to all Members of the Staff for service ungrudgingly given under most difficult conditions. Without this loyal co-operation conditions might well be intolerable.

E. S. WARREN,
*Chairman of the Brookwood Hospital
Management Committee.*

Annual Report

of the

PHYSICIAN-SUPERINTENDENT

5th July 1948 to 31st December 1949

BROOKWOOD HOSPITAL.

February, 1950.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the first Report of the Physician Superintendent since this Hospital came within the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, therefore, my Report will cover the period from 5th July, 1948, to 31st December, 1949.

In presenting this Report, I think it would be of interest if I outline, briefly, the history of the Hospital.

The Surrey County Asylum at Wandsworth, which was built in 1840, for 300 beds and later increased to 750 beds, was, by 1854, becoming overcrowded and the question of enlarging this Hospital was considered. It was ultimately enlarged in 1858, to accommodate 1,350 patients and a further proposal to increase the accommodation to 1,610 was abandoned.

A Committee was set up in 1860 to enquire into and report upon a suitable site for a new Asylum and after prolonged enquiry the site on which Brookwood Hospital now stands was selected.

This site, which comprised 150 acres, was purchased for £10,500 and a bank and quickset hedge was formed to enclose the site and a belt of trees was planted on the northern boundary.

In 1862 plans were adopted which included accommodation for 650 patients, 329 female and 321 male, a Chapel, houses for the Superintendent, Gardener and Farm Bailiff, and farm buildings. The main building, 430 feet in length, stood about the centre of the estate facing due south and commanding a pleasant view. At the extremity of the main building were detached blocks, disposed at an angle, with south eastern and south western aspects. These wings for male and female patients were connected by a covered way. Behind these buildings stood the workshops on one side and the laundry on the other.

The Chapel was apart from the main buildings near the main drive and lower down the drive was the gardener's house. To the north of the Chapel stood the farm buildings and the bailiff's house.

The Superintendent's house was situated outside the female ward garden on the south-western portion of the Asylum.

Gas works were constructed and gas fittings provided throughout the buildings.

Wells were sunk at the gardener's house, the bailiff's house and the Superintendent's house and four large reservoirs capable of holding 400,000 gallons of water were constructed on a portion of the lower ground on the site of some old sand and gravel pits and were fed by the stream and water course on the estate. Water from all the sources of supply was analysed and found to be of very good quality.

By the end of 1865 the buildings were approaching completion, and Dr. T. N. Brushfield was appointed to be the first Medical Superintendent and he commenced his duties on 1st March, 1866.

The Asylum was opened for the reception of patients on 17th June, 1867, and the buildings had cost just under £105,000 or approximately £161 per bed. There were 307 patients in the Asylum by the end of the year.

Owing to the large accumulation of cases of long standing, waiting for admission, not more than 5 per cent. of the admissions were deemed to have any reasonable prospect of recovery and it was feared that the wards would soon be fully occupied by patients of this class to the exclusion of those whose illness was of more recent origin and who had better prospects of recovery. The maintenance rate was 12s. per week.

Occupation and recreation for the patients was considered as important then as it is now and as many as two-thirds of the patients were employed in some way or another. The male patients were occupied in clearing and cultivating the land and helping in the wards and workshops and the female patients were employed in the kitchen, laundry and needleroom.

A brass band was formed and the first general entertainment, a Concert and Ball, was given for the patients on 19th September, 1867. Following that, concerts, balls and conjuring performances were given almost every week.

These entertainments took place in a large room formed by the removal of partitions in the workshop block.

Regular services in the Chapel commenced on the first Sunday in August, 1867, and it is interesting to note that for some months before the Asylum was opened an evening service was held in the Chapel for the benefit of the workmen engaged on the buildings and the people living around Knaphill.

In 1868, the abundant supply of water which was anticipated did not materialise and other sources of supply were investigated. During the summer weather the brook was entirely dry and the well water was quite inadequate. The brook water was stored in ponds and a horse pump supplied about 3,500 gallons per day. It was suggested that the canal authorities should be approached on the question of drawing 35,000 gallons of water from the canal daily and, if this failed, to sink a deep well in the lowest part of the estate, near the canal. Sufficient steam power machinery was to be installed to pump the water into an elevated tank and

distributing mains, with fire service mains at all points of the buildings, were to be provided.

The original system of heating the wards was by inlet and outlet flues for warm air to circulate over hot water pipes.

In 1869 Lodges were built at each of the three entrances to the estate. By this year also it had become evident that additional accommodation for patients would soon be required, and it was recommended that a detached block for 100 to 150 patients should be built and the galleries attached to the south wards on the ground floor should be widened.

Great improvement had by now been made on the estate. A large grass plot for croquet and outdoor games was laid down opposite the north entrance and considerable progress had been made in terracing and laying out the south front. The estate no longer had the appearance of a barren heath such as it was when the Asylum opened. A road which traversed the Asylum land south of the buildings was causing great inconvenience and a new road south of the canal was constructed and the road across the estate was closed. At the north of the Asylum and at a short distance from the boundary of the estate a road was commenced. On each side of this road it was intended to build houses with the backs of one row of houses facing the Asylum land. To avoid this, a strip of land between the estate and one side of the road was purchased.

The Recreation Hall was the next important building to be added to the Asylum. Plans were got out in 1872, for a Hall, 80 feet by 45 feet, with a basement available for workshops. A site was selected on the lawn opposite the north centre and building commenced in 1873 and was completed by the end of the year at a cost of £5,232. The Hall was opened on New Year's Eve 1873.

A severe epidemic of smallpox occurred in 1871, and lasted for two months. The Farm Villa and a temporary wooden building were used as an Isolation Hospital. This demonstrated the necessity for a Detached Hospital for epidemic diseases and the Cottage Hospital was built for this purpose in 1874.

The need for additional accommodation for patients had now become acute and plans were drawn up for accommodation for 300 female and 100 male patients. The female wards known as F.10 A, B, C and D, were opened in 1875 and M.10 ward the following year.

Grave anxiety was felt at this time concerning the water supply. An analysis showed contamination from houses erected in the vicinity of the Asylum. A well 80 feet deep was sunk down to the chalk layer and from 1879 to 1885 the problem of the water supply continued. A shaft commenced near the laundry was abandoned at a depth of 85 feet owing to engineering difficulties. In another part of the grounds a test bore reached the London

clay at a depth of 182 feet but the yield was unsatisfactory. After many delays a depth of 884 feet was reached but the yield did not exceed 8,000 gallons per day and the scheme was abandoned. An agreement with the Woking Water Company for the supply of water was entered into in 1885.

Apart from work on the farm, and in the gardens, workshops and laundry, the first mention of other indoor occupations appears in the Annual Report for 1879. The occupations suggested were brush and mat making, coco-nut fibre weaving, basket making and printing. By 1881, the printer's shop was so well equipped that all forms and books used in the Asylum were printed and bound in the workshop.

The Cricket field was laid out in 1879, and the following year a farm of about 57 acres including a House and Farmstead, which was separated from the existing estate by the high road, was purchased ; making the total acreage now 224.

Dr. Brushfield retired in 1882, and was succeeded by Dr. J. E. Barton. In his last report Dr. Brushfield pays tribute to Mr. Robert Lloyd, the gardener, who from the opening of the Asylum had had sole charge of planning the gardens, pleasure grounds and roadways and says "whatever may be considered as praiseworthy in this direction is entirely due to him."

In 1883, a third Asylum in Surrey was opened at Cane Hill and this reduced the threat of overcrowding in Brookwood.

Internal telephones were installed in various parts of the hospital in 1886, and also electric fire alarms which rang simultaneously in the bedrooms of the fire brigade. A steam buzzer worked by electricity and controlled from the Hall Porter's room was also installed.

In 1889, the management of the Asylum was taken over by the Surrey County Council from the Committee of Visitors, under the Local Government Act of 1888. By an arrangement between the Surrey County Council and the London County Council the latter authority took over the Asylums at Wandsworth and Cane Hill and Brookwood became the Asylum for the whole of the administrative County of Surrey.

The year 1890 is of importance in this historical survey as it was in this year that the Lunacy Act was passed.

The number of patients in the Asylum steadily increased and by 1899 there were 1,106 patients on the books occupying statutory accommodation for 1,080. Additional accommodation for 200 female and 150 male patients was planned at a cost of £87,000, and F.10 E, F and G, and M.11 and 12 wards were built. The new buildings rendered it necessary to pull down the Chapel and, as a new Chapel could not be built before the old one was removed, religious services were held in the Recreation Hall. These new extensions were completed and opened in May, 1903. There were 1,265 patients in residence at this time.

Electric light was installed in all the new buildings, the Recreation Hall, Officers' quarters, Clerk's office, Committee room and main corridors and the electric light station was built.

The new Chapel, having a seating capacity of 800, was completed and opened in 1903, and an organ was installed the following year.

To meet the need of additional reserve of water in case of fire a reservoir for 750,000 gallons and a pumping station with pumps capable of lifting 12,000 gallons per hour to a height of 120 feet in the Fire Service Tower was constructed and a new Fire Station was built near the Central Boiler House.

By 1906, there were 1,415 patients in the Institution and contracts were made with Oxford and York City authorities to take 40 male and 20 female patients at Oxford and 30 female patients at York. Already some 60 male patients had been transferred to other Asylums under contract.

In 1907, and 1908, the engineers' and joiners' shops were enlarged and fitted with additional machinery all powered by electricity.

Netherne Hospital was opened on 1st April, 1909, and this relieved the overcrowding at Brookwood so that the contracts with other authorities were terminated.

Dr. Barton, who had been Medical Superintendent since 1882, resigned after 36 years' service and was succeeded by Dr. J. A. Lowry in September, 1910.

Electric light was fitted throughout the whole Asylum in 1911, and the gas works was closed down.

The outbreak of war in 1914 caused a serious drain on the male staff as 36 men were either called up or volunteered for service in the forces.

It is of interest to note that the maintenance rate at this time was as low as 10s. 6d. per week as against 12s. in 1867.

By the end of 1917, as many as 87 members of the staff had joined the Forces. Ten members of the Asylum staff lost their lives on active service and a brass tablet to perpetuate their memory was placed in the Entrance Hall.

In 1919, the title of the Institution was altered from Lunatic Asylum to Mental Hospital.

During the war patients were received on transfer from Napsbury and Littlemore Mental Hospitals but by 1920 most of these patients had been transferred back to their own hospitals.

Consequent upon the increased cost of living due to the war and higher salaries the maintenance rate rose rapidly to 30s. per week, but by 1921 it was reduced to 21s. per week.

A proposal to build 12 cottages for married staff was considered at this time but the lowest tender was far in excess of the Architect's estimates and the project was abandoned. Improved heating arrangements were made in male and female wards 1,

2 and 4. A verandah was built at the Garden Villa and this Villa was set aside for the treatment of male tubercular patients. In 1923, a verandah was erected at F.10 G Ward where female tubercular patients were treated.

Between 1924 and 1938 an extensive building programme was carried out. An operating theatre was fitted up in the main building in 1924, and an X-ray apparatus installed in 1927. Alterations were made in the Recreation Hall in 1924, so that cinema entertainments could be given and heating was installed. In 1925, additional accommodation for 40 nurses plus recreation rooms was provided in a new Nurses' Home and in 1927 a house was built for the Clerk and Steward. In the same year plans were submitted for the erection of a Reception Hospital to accommodate 48 female and 40 male patients. This building was completed in 1930. An extension to the Nurses' Home was added to accommodate the additional nurses required. Hot plates were provided in all wards and an automatic telephone system was installed throughout the hospital.

In 1931, the Mental Treatment Act of 1930 came into operation and this Act made it possible for patients to be admitted on a Voluntary and Temporary basis. The introduction of Voluntary admissions was a great step forward as it enabled patients to come into hospital for treatment in the early stages of their illness without the stigma of certification.

In 1932, four convalescent Villas to accommodate 120 male and female patients were built and the total accommodation of the hospital was now 1,626.

An out-patient clinic was opened in Guildford in 1933, but it was closed the following year owing to lack of support.

The word Mental was deleted from the title of the hospital in 1935, and the hospital became known as Brookwood Hospital as it is to-day. In this same year the reconstruction of the kitchen and stores departments was commenced and completed the following year; also a hut for Occupational Therapy for female patients was erected and an Occupations Officer appointed.

In spite of the additional accommodation which had been provided, overcrowding on the female side was once more present by 1936, and the building of a third Mental Hospital was considered. It was also decided to build a modern Sick Hospital at Brookwood and plans were submitted.

The new Sick Hospital consists of Ellis Ward for 40 male patients, Tringham Ward for 60 female patients, Barton Ward for 15 female tubercular patients, Brushfield Isolation Hospital for 12 patients and the Lowry Centre. In Lowry Centre is an operating theatre with anæsthetic and sterilising rooms, dental and sight testing rooms, surgeon's room and, on the first floor small wards for sick staff and quarters for an Assistant Matron. This new addition to the hospital was built at an average cost

of £395 per bed and was formally opened and occupied on 21st October, 1938. The total accommodation of the hospital now amounted to 1,753 beds.

The Nurses' Home was extended to provide accommodation for an additional 14 nurses and a house built for a Medical Officer. Six additional pairs of cottages were also built at this time making a total of 77 cottages, which had been built since 1924 for the accommodation of married members of the staff.

In August, 1939, instructions were received that part of the hospital would be required for establishing an E.M.S. Hospital and immediate preparations were made for 400 casualties. The whole of the Sick Hospital and three Villas were evacuated and equipped for this purpose. There were 1,658 patients in the hospital at the outbreak of war and the transfer of the patients from the evacuated buildings to other wards resulted in the overcrowding of many wards, particularly those for the sick and elderly patients.

The E.M.S. Hospital was staffed by doctors and nurses largely from St. Thomas' Hospital and to meet the need for messing arrangements for an increased staff a Cafeteria was opened in the Female Visiting Hall.

On the outbreak of war, 30 male members of the staff were immediately called up for military service and in all 60 members of the staff served in the forces during the war ; six of these lost their lives on active service and a tablet to commemorate their memory was placed alongside the 1914-1918 war memorial in 1948.

Dr. Lowry retired on 30th April, 1940, after being Medical Superintendent for 30 years and I was appointed to succeed him. I worked with Dr. Lowry as a Medical Officer from 1926 to 1929, and I had been his deputy since 1937. I would like to pay tribute here to his great qualities as a friend and colleague from whom I received unfailing help and encouragement.

In September, 1941, the E.M.S. Hospital was withdrawn to make accommodation for a Military Hospital and additional wards were given up to the Military Authorities. The Sick Hospital, Farm Villa, Cottage Hospital, the whole of F.10 Block and part of the Nurses' Home were handed over to the Military Authorities and to make this possible 578 patients and 48 nurses were transferred to other hospitals. The Military Authorities remained in occupation of these buildings until September, 1946.

An out-patient clinic was opened at St. Luke's Hospital in 1942, and in 1944 a second one was opened at Woking Victoria Hospital. We now staff six out-patient clinics at Kingston, Guildford and Woking.

With the passing of the National Health Service Act in 1946, the Surrey County Council abandoned the plan of building a third Mental Hospital as the County Council was no longer

responsible for providing hospital accommodation. The Management of the hospital came under the newly formed Hospital Management Committee on 5th July, 1948, and the change over has been effected smoothly and efficiently owing to the fact that many members of the former Committee are members of the newly constituted Committee.

In order to preserve continuity, the statistics for the whole of 1948 are given as well as for 1949. The numerical changes in the patients during these two years were :—

Numerical changes, 1948	MALE				FEMALE				Totals
	Vol.	Temp.	Cert.	Total.	Vol.	Temp.	Cert.	Total.	
Number of patients in Hospital on 31-12-47	95	5	534	634	139	29	476	644	1,278
Since admitted	113	38	87	238	204	33	155	392	630
Discharged, Recovered	58	4	16	78	106	8	18	132	210
Discharged, Relieved	43	2	15	60	70	2	20	92	152
Discharged, Not Improved	17	1	1	19	14	1	1	16	35
Discharged, Section 72	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Discharged, Section 85	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	1	3
Transferred to other Hospitals	—	—	5	5	—	—	7	7	12
Died	10	11	52	73	10	8	60	78	151
Remaining in Hospital on 31-12-48	97	14	524	635	174	13	523	710	1,345

Numerical changes, 1949	MALE				FEMALE				Totals
	Vol.	Temp.	Cert.	Total.	Vol.	Temp.	Cert.	Total.	
Number of patients in Hospital on 31-12-48	97	14	524	635	174	13	523	710	1,345
Since admitted	195	31	85	311	213	16	208	437	748
Discharged, Recovered	68	6	15	89	111	2	26	139	228
Discharged, Relieved	60	3	1	64	82	5	4	91	155
Discharged, Not Improved	28	1	2	31	21	1	2	24	55
Discharged, Section 72	—	—	14	14	—	—	45	45	59
Discharged, Section 85	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2
Transferred to Other Hospitals	—	1	1	2	—	—	4	4	6
Died	16	13	42	71	16	8	75	99	170
Remaining in Hospital on 31-12-49	135	8	532	675	168	3	572	743	1,418

Admissions.

The admission of 748 patients in 1949 was a record in the history of the hospital. There has been a marked increase in

the admission rate since 1945, and this is most marked during the past two years. The figures for the previous four years were 344 in 1945 ; 478 in 1946 ; 531 in 1947 ; 630 in 1948. Of last year's admissions 61 per cent were admitted under the provisions of the Mental Treatment Act.

As noted in previous years a very large number of patients admitted were senile, no fewer than 172, or 23 per cent, were over 65 years of age, and of these, 81 were over 75 years of age. Until some other provision is made for the nursing care of the aged we will continue to have these senile patients sent here and this is resulting in the further over-crowding of the infirmary wards and a lowering of the discharge rate.

There was an increase of 67 patients in the Hospital in 1948, and this increase was entirely on the female side but last year the increase of 73 patients was almost equally divided on both sides.

Discharges.

The discharge rate for 1948 was 58 per cent for both male and female patients and in 1949 it was 53.4 per cent for male patients and 62.2 per cent for female patients, giving a combined discharge rate of 58.6 per cent calculated on direct admissions.

Deaths.

From the foregoing tables it will be seen that 151 patients died in 1948, and 170 in 1949, giving a death rate of 11.7 per cent for both male and female patients in 1948, and in 1949 it was 10.8 per cent for male patients and 13.7 per cent for female patients or 12.3 per cent for the whole hospital.

More than 72 per cent of the deaths occurred in patients over 65 years of age and the principal causes of death were—Myocardial Degeneration, 49 ; Senile Decay, 30 ; Cardio Vascular Degeneration, 19 ; Cerebral Hæmorrhage, 16 ; Pneumonia, 21 ; and Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 5.

General Health.

On the whole the health of the patients has been good. There have been only sporadic cases of dysentery in the hospital during the past two years which is very satisfactory considering the serious over-crowding which exists throughout the hospital. The possible spread of infection has been kept in check by systematic bacteriological examinations. The position with regard to tuberculosis has improved. Eight new cases, 7 male and 1 female patient, were notified during the year as suffering from tuberculosis, but of these, 3 male and the 1 female patient were suffering from tuberculosis on admission. There are at the present time 23 male and 6 female patients under treatment for this condition and of these only one male patient has pyrexia. They are all X-rayed at regular intervals to record progress.

Accidents and Inquests.

Four male and fifteen female patients sustained fractures of bone during the year, from accidental causes. The large number of these accidents among the female patients is undoubtedly due to the over-crowded state of the wards in which the elderly and feeble patients are being nursed.

Three inquests were held during the year on two male and one female patient. The verdict in the cases of the male patients was "Misadventure" and in the case of the female patient it was "Accidental Death." The circumstances were reported to you at the time.

Leave for Patients.

Leave of over three days' duration was granted to 63 female patients and 21 male patients during the year and an ever increasing number of patients are taken out of hospital by their relatives and friends from one to three days.

Out-patient Clinics.

We staff six out-patient clinics at Guildford, Kingston and Woking. The attendances for 1949 were as follows with the figures for 1948 in parenthesis.

		New Cases	Attendances
Royal Surrey County Hospital	..	151 (170)	765 (698)
St. Luke's Hospital	.. ..	234 (152)	628 (368)
Kingston County Hospital	.. ..	199 (338)	806 (1,254)
Woking and District Victoria Hospital		166 (133)	247 (193)
Totals	.. ..	750 (793)	2,446 (2,513)

The attendances at St. Luke's Hospital clinic have increased as the result of opening a second clinic at that hospital, in June. The attendances at Kingston Hospital were lower than those for 1948 owing to the fact that the doctor sessions were reduced by half on account of shortage of senior staff due to illness.

The National Health Service Act provides for domiciliary consultations when the patient is unable to attend at one of the out-patient clinics and General Practitioners are taking advantage of this provision. The senior members of the medical staff are frequently called out on these consultations.

Treatment.

All modern methods of treatment are employed with the exception of prefrontal leucotomy. Proper facilities for carrying out this treatment have not been available until recently, but now that the new operating theatre and the Sick Hospital have been reinstated and equipped it is hoped to be able to carry out this form of treatment, on suitable cases, in the near future.

Extensive use is being made of electro-convulsive therapy and both deep and modified insulin treatment. An increasing number of patients who are seen at the clinics and on domiciliary consultations are taking advantage of having electro-convulsive treatment as out-patients at this hospital. Many of these patients are willing to attend here for out-patient treatment who would not come into hospital. There are many advantages in this arrangement as against attempting to carry out this form of treatment at the clinics. Firstly it leaves more time available at the clinics for seeing new cases, secondly Brookwood is very central and easily reached from most parts of the area served by the hospital and finally, not the least important of the advantages is the fact that, having attended here for treatment, patients are more willing to come into hospital, if this should be found necessary on account of the patient not responding to out-patient treatment.

Nineteen major surgical operations were performed during the year, and in two cases it was on members of the staff. The members of the consulting staff have visited the hospital and examined patients on many occasions.

Laboratory.

All the laboratory investigations required in the hospital were carried out for us by the staff of the Military Hospital during the five years they were here and after the Military left the laboratory was completely re-equipped and staff engaged. The work undertaken by this department is steadily increasing and the following is a summary of the investigations carried out during 1949.

A. BIOCHEMISTRY.					<i>Investigations</i>
Routine Urine Analysis	..	..	..		790
Urine Sugar and Acetone	..	..	..		375
„ Quantitative Alb.	..	..	..		7
„ Ozazone Formation	..	..	..		4
„ Pentose	..	..	..		2
„ Lactose	..	..	..		2
„ Uric Acid	..	..	..		2
„ Diacetic Acid ..	..	..	..		8
BLOOD ANALYSIS INCLUDING SERUM AND PLASMA					
Blood Sugar	..	..	..		84
„ Bromide	..	..	..		39
„ Urea	..	..	..		45
„ Total Protein ..	..	..	..		6
„ Globulin	..	..	..		4
„ Fibrin	..	..	..		4
„ Albumen	..	..	..		4
„ Calcium	..	..	..		8
„ Uric Acid	..	..	..		5

A. BIOCHEMISTRY— <i>continued</i>					<i>Investigations</i>
Blood Creatinine	..	..	..	..	5
„ Cholesterol	..	..	..	..	8
„ Acid Phosphatase	..	..	..	..	6
„ Alk. ..	..	..	..	..	14
„ Sodium	..	..	..	..	4
„ Potassium	..	..	..	..	2
CEREBRO-SPINAL FLUID					
C.S.F. Protein	..	..	..	..	2
„ Globulin	..	..	..	..	2
„ Chlorides	..	..	..	..	3
„ Lange ..	..	..	..	..	2
FAECES					
Occult Blood	..	..	..	..	31
Fat Analysis	..	..	..	..	4
Total					1,472
B. HAEMOTOLOGY					
Complete Blood Count	..	..	..	..	446
Enumeration of Red Cells and Estimation of Haemoglobin or Enumeration of White Cells and Differential Count	..	..	..	..	321
Platelet Counts	..	..	..	..	2
Reticulocyte Counts	..	..	..	..	7
Bleeding Times	..	..	..	..	3
Clotting Times ..	..	..	..	..	3
Erythrocyte Sedimentation rates	..	..	..	..	74
Haemoglobin Estimations	..	..	..	..	59
Total					915
C. PARASITOLOGY					
Blood Smears for Malaria	..	..	..	..	39
Smears for Trichomonas, etc.	..	..	..	..	2
Stools, etc., for Ova, etc.	..	..	..	..	6
Total					47
D. CYTOLOGY					
Cerebro-Spinal Fluid	..	..	..	..	6
Faeces ..	..	..	..	..	8
Total					14

E. BACTERIOLOGY

Investigations

Faeces ? Dysentery and Typhoid, etc.	..	1,442
„ Tubercle Bacilli	.. ..	8
„ Micro-Organisms	.. ..	16
SWABS, ETC.		
Throat ? KLB.	.. ..	171
„ ? Organisms	.. ..	62
Nasal Swabs Organisms	.. ..	12
Eye Swabs Organisms	.. ..	2
Ear Swabs Organisms	.. ..	1
Mouth Swabs Organisms	.. ..	3
Prostate Smears Organisms	.. ..	2
Vaginal Swabs Organisms	.. ..	3
Cervical Swabs Organisms	.. ..	2
Sputum ? T.B.	.. ..	75
„ ? Organisms	.. ..	26
Urine ? Organisms	.. ..	26
C.S.F. Culture	.. ..	5
Penicillin Sensitivity Tests	.. ..	8
Agglutination Tests, Widal, etc.	.. ..	26
Blood culture	.. ..	3
Total	.. ..	1,893

F. TESTS OF FUNCTION

Fractional Test Meals	.. ..	4
Glucose Tolerance Curves	.. ..	21
Total	.. ..	25

Number of investigations carried out—4,366.

Occupational Therapy.

Every available form of occupation in the hospital is made use of therapeutically and 350 female and 380 male patients are employed daily in all the well equipped workshops, laundry, sewing room, on the farm and gardens, in the engineer's department, the offices, stores and kitchen. Those who are unsuitable for employment in these departments are encouraged to occupy themselves in the Wards.

The male and female occupational centres are both very cramped for space but very good work is being carried out in these centres and the standard of work is very high indeed. The male patients have, under expert supervision, modernised many suites of bedroom furniture from the rooms in the Nurses' Home. When completed and fitted with long mirrors this furniture will make the nurses' rooms much more attractive.

A new innovation was the introduction of an Art Therapy

class in April. Capt. Bradbury, who has had considerable experience in this form of treatment, was engaged for one whole day session per week and his classes are greatly appreciated by the patients. We receive a regular exchange of pictures from the British Red Cross picture library. These are prints of important works of art and frames of standard size have been made to take these pictures. They are hung in various wards and are also used by Capt. Bradbury to illustrate his short talks on Art.

Recreational Therapy.

The recreations available are so varied that practically every taste is catered for. The male patients have their own cricket and football teams and both home and away matches with other hospitals are arranged. It is hoped to extend these matches to darts and billiards in the near future. The female patients who are not suitable for parole are taken on conducted walks.

Indoor recreation consists of modern and old-time dances, whist drives, cinema entertainments and concerts. A new grand piano was purchased towards the end of 1948, and a monthly concert is arranged during the winter months by the Council for Music in Hospitals. These concerts are much appreciated as a change from the lighter form of entertainment. The staff produced a very enjoyable play and a party of patients gave an excellent concert under the guidance and training of the occupational officers. The staff of Netherne Hospital and several local amateur dramatic societies have very kindly provided entertainments for the patients.

A gramophone record player and amplifier has been purchased and gramophone record recitals are held in the wards and the Recreation Hall.

The redecoration and refurnishing and the laying of a new floor in the Recreation Hall has added considerably to the brightness of the atmosphere at all these entertainments and the Hall is now in daily use.

As in former years parties of patients were taken on charabanc outings to Bognor, Worthing and Littlehampton during the summer months. The majority were mixed parties and 30 patients and staff went on each outing. These trips to the sea are looked forward to with eagerness by the patients and are greatly enjoyed.

The patients' Annual Fete was held on 29th July in fine weather and it was a great success. The Staff Social Committee organised a Flower Show on August Bank Holiday as in previous years. The Flower Show was opened by Mr. E. S. Warren, the Chairman of the Hospital Management Committee, and several members of the Committee were also present. It was a very successful Show and the size of the attendance was sufficient proof of the popularity of this annual event.

Parole is granted to 126 female patients and 110 male patients at the present time and many of these patients are granted parole outside the hospital grounds at week-ends. Parties of female patients who are not suitable for parole are taken shopping into Knaphill one afternoon each week.

Wireless entertainment is available in all wards and on the male side there are three full sized billiards tables and bagatelle tables. Newspapers and periodicals are provided in all wards and full use is made of the well stocked library.

Our thanks are due to members of the Committee and various friends for a generous supply of magazines and periodicals and also to Mrs. Hulme Taylor for her voluntary services as Librarian and to Miss Powles for giving the gramophone record recitals.

Hospital Accommodation.

In spite of the fact that the Sick Hospital and Cottage Hospital became available for use last year the wards are still overcrowded, particularly in the female section, where there are at the present time 765 patients in statutory accommodation for 504, which represents over 50 per cent overcrowding. This is a very serious state of affairs as it makes satisfactory classification of patients impossible, renders efficient nursing extremely difficult and adds considerably to the strain on the nursing staff. The reinstating of F. 10 Block is nearing completion but when these wards are available we have not sufficient nurses to staff them.

Staff Matters.

Repeated advertising in newspapers in various parts of the British Isles has not produced many student nurses. We have been able to engage a number of ward orderlies and ward maids which has eased the burden on the nursing staff very considerably.

The position with regard to the shortage of staff is as follows :—

FEMALE NURSING STAFF

	On 5th July, 1948.	On 31st December, 1949
Day Duty	64 (6 part-time)	64 (9 part time)
Night Duty	21 (4 part time)	29 (16 part time)
Domestic Staff—		
Ward Maids	3	—
Day Duty	—	40 (5 part time)
Night Duty	—	9 (2 part time)
Vacancies	172	118
Nurses holding the R.M.P.A. Certificate	30	35

MALE NURSING STAFF.

On 5th July, 1948. On 31st December, 1949

Day Duty	.. ..	109	111
Night Duty	.. ..	20	21
Vacancies	.. ..	38	35
Nurses holding the R.M.P.A. Certificate		82	82

One male nurse gained the R.M.P.A. Certificate with distinction in 1949, and two were successful in Part I, four in Part II and two in Parts I and II of the G.N.C. preliminary examination. Two male nurses obtained their general nursing certificate. One female nurse gained the R.M.P.A. Certificate.

The alterations to the Lecture rooms have been completed and we have now a well equipped Training School. It has not been possible to obtain a Sister Tutor but you have engaged two of our own male nurses, who are doubly qualified, as tutors.

We have not been successful in obtaining the services of a Psychiatric Social Worker owing to the shortage of qualified social workers.

The changes which have taken place among the medical staff are: the resignation of Dr. Paine, who was appointed to the staff of Botley's Park Hospital, in March, and the engagements of Dr. Bobath in February, Dr. Collins in March, and Dr. Gregory in May. Unfortunately Dr. Collins has been off duty sick since June. Dr. Johnston returned to duty in October, after being off duty sick since the previous December and we were pleased to welcome him back in restored health.

Official Visits.

Two Commissioners of the Board of Control visited the hospital on 4th and 5th May; Dr. Harrington visited the hospital and interviewed the service patients on 15th June, and Commander Tennyson visited the hospital on behalf of the Ex-Services Welfare Society and interviewed the ex-service patients on 23rd March.

Works Department.

The following work has been carried out by the Works Department since the 5th July, 1948 :—

Repairs and redecoration of the Garden Villa.

Redecoration and refurnishing of the Recreation Hall.

Conversion of Army Huts into temporary living accommodation for staff and for office accommodation and a new dispensary.

External and internal redecoration of the Nurses' Home.

Exterior painting of the whole hospital.

Extensive roof repairs to main building.

Reroofing of farm buildings.

Redecoration of farm buildings.

Redecoration of the cafeteria and several houses on the estate.

Structural alterations and internal and external decoration of The Mount.

Farm and Gardens.

The total land available for farming on the estate and including Cobbett's Farm at Bisley is approximately 200 acres. Ornamental gardens and recreation grounds cover about 35 acres and the vegetable garden 25 acres. In addition, 18 acres of arable land at Brookwood is rented from the Necropolis Company, and 23 acres of grazing land at Chobham is rented from Messrs. Hillings, making a total of just over 300 acres.

The farm staff engaged at present with the figures for 1948 in brackets is as follows :—

Farm Bailiff	1 Carter (1)
Deputy Farm Bailiff	2 Farm Attendants (2)
1 Pigman (1)	1 Poultrywoman (1)
1 Cowman (1)	1 Women's Land Army (2)
2 Tractor Drivers (1)	1 General Farm Worker (—)

The garden staff consists of :—

Head Gardener	1 Female agricultural worker
10 Garden attendants (5)	(1)
1 Garden labourer (1)	2 Garden boys (2)
	2 Women's Land Army (3)

There are 27 male patients employed on the farm and 40 in the gardens.

The needs of the hospital receive prior consideration and profit making is a secondary factor, but every effort is made to ensure economic operation as far as possible.

Milk, eggs, potatoes, other vegetables, fruit and pork are the chief items supplied to the hospital.

The dairy herd consists of 93 cattle and has passed the necessary tests of the tuberculosis (attested herd) scheme, since 5th July, 1948. All records are kept in accordance with the requirements of the Milk Recording Society and butter-fat sampling has been undertaken regularly with satisfactory results.

The herd consists of about 75 per cent pedigree Ayrshires and the remainder are cross-bred Ayrshire-Frisian. During 1949, 56 calves were bred and of these 20 heifers were retained in the herd and 36 bull calves were sold in market. Fifteen cattle have been sold including one bull and one young Ayrshire bull was purchased.

Milk production amounted to 36,852 gallons, which is a record for the farm, and the average yield per cow was 880 gallons. The

highest yielding cow was Blue IV, who gave 1,166 gallons during the year under review. Sub-clinical mastitis was diagnosed by the Veterinary Surgeon and the necessary treatment given. The herd is now free from infection.

There are at present 322 pigs on the farm, mostly pedigree Middle Whites. During the year 407 pigs were born and reared and 292 were sold, and 107 killed to supply pork for the patients and staff.

The poultry section consists of 342 hens and cockerels, 39 ducks, 8 turkeys and 8 geese. During the year 2,137 dozen eggs were supplied to the hospital and 263 fowls, 27 ducks, 3 geese and 2 turkeys were killed for staff meals and patients sick diets.

The crops grown on the farm land during the year were as follows :—

Potatoes	..	..	..	30 acres.
Wheat	..	..	..	10 „
Oats	..	..	..	55 „
Hay	..	..	..	30 „
Root Crops		..	..	15 „
Grass	..	..	..	35 „

The potato crop was lighter than usual owing to the dry season but the crops of wheat, oats and maize were very good, and hay was up to standard. The crops of mangolds, swedes, turnips and kale were poor, again due to the dry summer.

The fruit crop was well up to the usual high standard, soft fruits being particularly good.

Flowers and plants have been supplied to all wards and the Chapel and Recreation Hall have been decorated when required.

Improvements have been made in the hospital drives and ornamental gardens and the estate is now kept in a better condition than was possible in the past owing to the increased number of garden staff employed.

Pensions.

The following members of the staff have retired on pension since 5th July, 1948 :—

				Years' service
GREEN, F.	..	Deputy Clerk and Steward	31- 5-48	40
THOMAS, MARGARET		Nursing Assistant	.. 28- 6-48	21
SOWDEN, F. E.	..	Pharmacist	.. 31- 7-48	34
FULLMAN, A.	..	Nursing Assistant	29-10-48	34
PEPWORTH, G. M.		Ward Sister	.. 30-11-48	24
HATFIELD, D. L.	..	Ward Sister	.. 11- 9-49	30
WEST, A. F.	..	Head Gardener	.. 17-11-49	21

I deeply regret to have to report the death of the following members of the staff who were on pension :—

HILL, C. H. D.	..	Pigman	..	..	..	28- 4-48
SHANNAHAN, JANE..		Ward Sister	..	..	..	21- 6-48
LOWRY, J. A.	..	Physician Superintendent	..		..	20- 8-48
COLEMAN, H. W.	..	Charge Nurse	..	..	..	14-11-48
BAKER, G. C.	..	Painter	..	..	..	23- 2-49
OLIVER, C. B.	..	Engineer	..	..	..	14-10-49

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the way in which all members of the staff have carried out their duties in a cheerful and efficient manner under extremely difficult conditions. To my Medical colleagues, the Secretary and all heads of departments my special thanks are due for their loyal support and co-operation.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to thank you for your confidence and support at all times.

LEONARD BARBER, M.D., D.P.M.,
Physician Superintendent.

REPORT *of the* SECRETARY

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I submit the Secretary's report for the period 5th July, 1948, to 31st December, 1949.

DESIGNATION OF HOSPITAL

The Minister of Health designated " Brookwood Hospital " as a hospital for the purpose of the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Act, as amended by the National Health Service Act, 1946.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

For many years, the Hospital Committee had undertaken limited responsibilities as a Sub-Committee of the Surrey County Council and it was no small undertaking for the Management Committee to be charged by the requirements of the National Health Service Act of 1946, at such comparatively short notice, with complete day-to-day management as the agents of the Regional Board. Although one has regrets at the severance of official connections with some members of the County Council and the officers, the new arrangements do allow greater initiative and freedom of action. That there was so little inconvenience in the change-over was in no small measure due to great understanding of the new Committee and the staff of all grades, and I am very mindful of their extra tolerance during this difficult period.

It is a matter of regret that Mr. Ald. S. Boorman and Mr. Ald. S. G. W. Tringham found it necessary to sever their official connection with the hospital. At a joint inaugural committee meeting, the Chairman and Members paid tribute to the services which Mr. Boorman and Mr. Tringham had rendered so ungrudgingly. Each, in turn, had held the office of Chairman of the Farm and Garden Sub-Committee and one of their outstanding feats was the dogged work against so many obstacles to assist in bringing the farm and garden to its present high standard. I should like to express the thanks of my department to Mr. Boorman and Mr. Tringham for their many acts of kindness and for the consideration which invariably was extended to my staff.

STAFF COMMITTEES

Committees, representing the Management Committee and the Staff respectively have been established, and in their joint deliberations both sides have endeavoured to find equitable solutions to problems. The functioning of these Committees advances the feeling of fellowship, which is so helpful.

SECRETARIAL

On the appointed day, the Secretarial section of my department took over the duties previously performed by the Clerk to the Visiting Committee. It was with much regret that we lost contact with Mr. W. Hall, who for so long had been a friend and adviser, and had so ably carried out his committee responsibilities.

In spite of the many amendments to the Lunacy Act, 1890, the Board of Control still recognise my office of Clerk of the Hospital (Section 276).

The extra essential work has necessitated some small increase in staff with the provision of added accommodation.

FINANCE

The financial responsibilities previously undertaken through the County Treasurer were transferred to the Management Committee and I should like to say how much we appreciated the ready assistance afforded by Mr. Britnor and his staff during the change-over.

The income and expenditure have been reported at each meeting and the accounts examined by the Committee with regularity, and there is no reason to suppose that the commitments for the period under review will be in excess of the estimates, which had to be prepared and revised several times to conform with changing central administrative conditions.

Benevolent Fund.

The Minister of Health agreed to the Management Committee retaining control of the Benevolent Fund, the interest from which has been used for the benefit of discharged patients since the opening of the hospital. Mr. A. F. W. Meen and Mr. E. S. Warren act as Trustees.

Endowment Fund.

Mr. Meen and Mr. Warren are the elected Trustees for the Hospital Endowment Fund, which derives its money from a distribution by the Minister of Health of amounts apportioned to the several hospitals from a central fund according to their bed-state.

Grants from the Fund may be made to patients and staff alike, at the discretion of the Management Committee, and it appears that the income will be about £1,500 a year.

Bramall Children Fund.

In 1931 the Hospital Committee invested £250 for the benefit of three children of H. Bramall, an employee who died in the service, with Mr. J. A. Tulk, as Trustee. All the conditions having been fulfilled, the Fund is now closed.

Audit of Accounts.

The Government Auditor has completed the audit of accounts for the period 5th July, 1948, to 31st March, 1949, and has conducted interim audits for the later period.

ESTABLISHMENT.

Sick.

It has been of some concern that certain members of the staff have suffered indifferent health on account of their war service, and those concerned have appreciated the Committee's consideration. My staff, as a whole, are fully mindful of the attention which the medical and nursing staff bestows upon them during sickness.

Superannuation.

Many of the staff who were in the first class under Section I of the A.O.S. Act, 1909, have been accepted as Mental Health Officers under the provision of the new Health Act. Some grades, however, are at present not acceptable to the Ministry of Health, and these cases are now forming the subject for further consideration.

Established Staff.

The entire staff of the hospital was transferred from the direction of the County Council to that of the Management Committee on the appointed day in accordance with Section 86 of the Act.

In consequence of added duties, the clerical staff has been increased at a cost of about £2,000, against which, of course, should be placed the saving in central office staff, hitherto engaged on secretarial, finance and purchasing.

Wages and Conditions of Service.

Wages and conditions of service of various grades have been brought into line with appropriate recommendations, and professional advisory committees have been constituted.

Pensioners.

The Committee will remember that arrangements are made each year for pensioners to be invited to the annual Flower Show. This re-union is much appreciated.

Entertainments.

In so isolated a district it is most helpful to have a comprehensive recreational programme and the elected Staff Social Committee make every endeavour to meet the requirements. Although handicapped by lack of club buildings, the several activities are carried out by the sectional committees with no small success.

SUPPLIES

Apart from the encouragement at having been appointed your Supplies Officer, it was very gratifying to realise that once again the Hospital Committee would become responsible for spending its own money. At all times during our transactions through the County Central Purchasing Committee we received every help and consideration from Mr. Ayton and his staff.

The Pharmacist has been relieved of non-technical work affecting the ordering of goods by our Supplies Department requisitioning and accounting for supplies other than Drugs and Poisons.

WORKS AND ESTATE

The two works departments are supervised by the Hospitals Engineer with his deputy, and the General Works Foreman.

The Estates Sub-Committee is responsible for the administration of the Works as well as the Farm and Garden section, through the several appropriate officers who submit their reports and are present during the discussion by the Committee of matters affecting their respective offices.

Authority was given for a temporary increase in stoking personnel on account of the difficulties in maintaining steam by the enforced use of 75 per cent coke for the Lancashire boilers. Considerable extra work is entailed, both as regards bulk to be fired and excess clinker.

The post of Senior Joiner has been re-established.

Apprentices in Joinery and Upholstery have been accepted.

Gas Supply.

A new 4 in. gas main has been brought in from the Broadway. In consequence of its being no longer required, the gas holder with the pumping equipment has been dismantled.

Wireless.

The installing of individual wireless sets in the wards to replace the central set gives more selective service.

Staff Accommodation.

Improvements have been carried out in respect of the equipment and furnishing of some rooms in the Nurses' Home, though the male resident staff are badly served.

The Committee's house-building programme has been limited to four houses for officers but endeavours have been made to meet the requirements of married staff by altering some of the larger type house to accommodate two families and by adapting ex-army huts. There are now on the estate quarters for 112 married members of the staff.

Occupational Departments.

The income from Male and Female Occupational Treatment departments continues to exceed the expenditure. Considering the difficulties which must be met during the treatment, this financial result reflects great credit upon the officers for their care and judgment.

The Printing department continues to do good work. At Christmas time, a shop and post office were again operative at which patients could select and post their cards.

The Shoemaker's, Upholsterer's and Tailor's departments supply the hospital with essential commodities while at the same time the patients are given instruction in the crafts.

Laundry.

During the war some worn-out laundry washing machines and hydro-extractors were not replaced owing to the national difficulties. An attempt is now being made to reorganise the department and, although at the moment the purchase of new machines is not essential, consideration may have to be given to acquiring additional machinery when F.10 Block is reoccupied.

Dry cleaning is being undertaken by the Regional Central Laundry.

The Laundry Superintendent, alone, is resident, the other staff preferring to live out. This choice is not surprising when many have household duties, and all get long week-ends free from institutional life.

Farm and Garden.

The hospital is not now insured against fire, but in spite of the loss of £2,000, value of oats, at the fire mentioned later in this report, the Farm and Garden record a profit of £483 for the period ended March, 1949. Farming in a mental hospital is not undertaken for farming alone, but chiefly for the regulated employment and instruction of patients. To have made a commercial success as well as having supplied the hospital with wholesome milk, high grade pork, and first class vegetables, is truly commendable.

Mr. A. West, who had been Head Gardener for twenty-one years, resigned on pension in November, 1949. Mr. West was popular with patients and staff alike, and ever helpful to all.

Mr. G. Carter has been appointed Head Gardener, and I am very happy in the Committee's choice.

Overhead irrigation of three acres has been installed, the water being pumped from the lake near the canal.

The Committee, with a consulting architect, have given consideration to the erection of new farm buildings beyond the Brookwood Farm, but this very desirable project, once more, has had to be postponed.

F.10 Block.

Though the Nurses' Home with the Preliminary Training School has been handed back, the workmen are still in occupation of the remainder of F.10 Block with its 550 beds.

TRANSPORT

Our motor vehicles are limited to two lorries, one van, and a Lister, in addition to the recently acquired Ford Mercury Utility vehicle which replaced a lorry previously on loan from the Home Office.

FIRE SERVICE

Considerable personnel and administrative reorganization of the Fire Brigade has become necessary owing to, (1) the shift system being adopted for the male nurses, (2) the fact that fewer junior staff are required to sleep in the hospital, and (3) that a minimum number of nurses sleep in rooms adjoining the wards and dormitories.

Drills and instruction have been carried out regularly, but owing to the shortage of nursing staff there has to be an absence of the element of surprise in the drills. The hospital has complete liaison with the County Fire Service, whose recent recommendations are receiving the attention of the Management Committee, and there is a waiting list of staff willing to join our Brigade.

By prompt action the brigade salvaged much of the corn and prevented the collapse of the Dutch barn during a fire at the Home Farm on the 13th September, 1948, when the oat crop from 50 acres was involved.

In a report, the Chairman of the Farm Committee stated :

"... Great commendation is due to the Fire Brigade, the Farm and Garden Staffs under the supervision of Mr. Ellis, the Deputy Farm Bailiff, and the willing helpers many of whom had worked tirelessly the night through."

I have pleasure in endorsing the sentiments expressed above; everybody worked very hard indeed. In spite of their investigation, the County Fire Service and the Police were unable to ascertain the cause of the fire.

BASINGSTOKE CANAL

There has been a change of ownership of the Basingstoke Canal, which borders the southern part of the hospital freehold land. The patients continue to enjoy the use of the path alongside the waterway, for which privilege the Committee are charged £1 per year.

CORONER

Dr. J. Murray Robertson became H.M. Coroner for South-West Surrey in September, 1948.

My thanks are due to the Management Committee for their confidence in appointing me their Secretary, Finance Officer and Supplies Officer, and I also wish to express my gratitude to the Chairman, members of the Committee and Dr. Barber for the advice and consideration which it has been my fortune to receive, and on account of which my lot has been a very happy one.

I should like to record my thanks to the Deputy Secretary, Mr. E. F. Lloyd, who has so ably and unsparingly assisted me at all times. It is a great pleasure to report the loyalty and high standard of the staff in my departments, and I am indebted to them and to the heads of the several sections for their ready co-operation, without which it would not be possible for the lay administration to make the contribution which the patients' treatment has the right to expect.

I beg to remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. A. EKINS,

Secretary.

19th May, 1950.

Copy of BOARD OF CONTROL REPORT

BROOKWOOD HOSPITAL,
SURREY.

5th May, 1949.

The two main difficulties under which this hospital is labouring are serious overcrowding on the female side and a severe shortage of female nurses. We have discussed both these matters with Dr. Barber at considerable length and are satisfied that everything possible is being done to ameliorate the position in regard to them.

There are to-day shown on the books of the hospital 1,367 patients in the proportion of 647 men to 720 women. Two women are to-day on leave of absence, leaving 1,365 patients in residence. Of the latter total, 110 men and 173 women are voluntary patients and 11 men and 10 women are under temporary treatment. There are no private patients. Three hundred and sixty-five women who were evacuated from this hospital during the war are still accommodated in other mental hospitals. One hundred and sixty-eight of them are accommodated within the Region and 197 are accommodated outside the Region.

The hospital does not form part of a group and therefore has its own Management Committee which meets monthly; its members are carrying out the rota and other visits required by law. The following departments are, in accordance with the Committee's directions, now under the charge of the Secretary, who is responsible direct to the Committee for them :—

All Works departments, Stores, Kitchen, Laundry, Catering and Farm.

The Matron retains control of the Sewing Room.

Direct admissions during 1948 totalled 624 (Male 238, Female 386) of whom 388 or approximately 62 per cent were received under the provisions of the Mental Treatment Act. Not much use is made of the observation ward system (Section 20, Lunacy Act, 1890) in this area and there is an increasing tendency to use the urgency order procedure.

According to the statistical returns furnished to us, there are 33 vacant beds on the male side, but a shortage of beds on the female side amounting to 216. This shortage of beds on the female side appears to us to be largely due : (a) to the very large increase in direct female admissions over the past two years, (b) to the number of early psychotic and psychoneurotic cases admitted through the out-patient clinics. Comparison of the number of direct female admissions in 1947 (322) with the figure for the first four months of this year (154), which would foreshadow an annual total for 1949 of 462, discloses an increase over the 1947 figure of about 43 per cent. During our tour of the female wards, we enquired of the medical staff what proportion of the women over 65 years whom we saw it was estimated could be

accommodated in geriatric long-stay annexes and the estimate given was not less than 50 per cent.

General repairs and redecoration are being carried out as rapidly as circumstances permit. Ward F.10, which has accommodation for 500 female patients, is still in the hands of the building contractors and is, we are informed, unlikely to be ready for occupation this year. There appears, therefore, to be little hope of the return of the "evacuated" female patients mentioned in the second paragraph above to the hospital before next year at the earliest.

We found the wards generally in good order and, despite the overcrowding on the female side, we received no complaints from patients as to their living conditions. We paid particular attention to the conditions in female ward F.9, the main infirmary ward on the female side. Following complaints as to these conditions in November last the number of patients in this ward has been reduced from 180 to 162. The opening of the sick hospital has further ameliorated the position by enabling the removal thither of the small number of patients suffering from tuberculosis. The duties of the nursing staff in this ward have also been reduced by allotting two nursing orderlies and two ward maids to duty there. It must be admitted that the ward still remains seriously overcrowded, but we cannot see any possibility of remedying that difficulty until the further female accommodation now in the hands of the contractors becomes available.

Occupational treatment is well arranged here and systematically carried out on both sides of the hospital. We thought there was further scope for extension of this work in the male wards. Since the last visit a combined art and music appreciation class has been started and is held once a week for patients of both sexes.

The mortality rate for 1948 was 11.7 per cent, a figure above the mean death of 6.33 per cent for all former county and borough mental hospitals. During that year 151 patients died (73 males and 78 females); a large proportion of these were suffering from conditions associated with senility, which accounts for this somewhat high death rate. The principal causes of death were diseases of the circulatory system, including arterio sclerosis (76), old age (41), pneumonia (30) and cerebral thrombosis and haemorrhage (15). The only other condition we should like to mention is tuberculosis, which caused death in six patients.

Since the last visit three inquests have been held. Death in one case was found to be due to natural causes, in another a verdict of misadventure was returned in the case of a patient who died from an inhalation pneumonia accelerated by the administration of pentothal for the relief of a strangulated hernia. In the remaining case the cause of the death was suppurative pancreatitis which followed a fracture of the thigh—a verdict of accidental death was returned.

During the period under review, 14 patients have sustained fractures, 11 of these injuries were due to falls or to other accidental causes, two occurred through acts of violence on the part of fellow patients, whilst in the remaining case the fracture took place during electric convulsion treatment. X-ray examination confirmed the diagnosis in each case.

Last year 18 cases of tuberculosis were notified (13 men and five women) and 25 men and five women remain under treatment for this disease at the present time. Open air treatment is provided for these patients in Ellis Villa on the male side and Barton Villa on the female side. We were glad to learn that small sterilizers are to be fitted in both of these villas and we noticed that a better type of face mask has been introduced for the use of the staff who nurse these patients. We were informed that in many cases the tuberculosis lesions were not very active, such cases having been discovered by the mass X-ray surveys carried out during the past two years.

The number of cases of dysentery notified last year amounted to 29 (seven men and 22 women). A further eight cases occurred this year (three men and five women) and one man remains under treatment. A bacteriological examination of the intestinal contents of all patients is being carried out ward by ward and two carriers have been discovered. These cases have already been successfully treated. The work of the pathological laboratory which opened about six months ago includes, in addition to the last mentioned survey, many other routine investigations and a search for dysentery and typhoid organisms in the case of each new admission. The laboratory is staffed by a technician and two assistants.

At the time of our visit there were 296 patients (89 male and 207 female) undergoing treatment in bed. These patients appeared to us to be receiving all proper care and attention at the hands of the medical and nursing staff. Special forms of treatment include electric convulsions—given in some cases with curare and continuous narcosis, and insulin shock. There are units for this last mentioned treatment at the male and female reception hospitals, but on the female side only modified insulin therapy is being given. It is hoped to begin full insulin coma at an early date.

Out-patient clinics are held twice a week at Kingston County Hospital and once weekly at the Victoria Hospital, Woking, St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford, and the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford. During 1948 there were 2,673 attendances of whom 790 were new cases. Owing to pressure on medical officers' time and lack of accommodation little or no time is available for psycho-therapy.

We learnt from the Secretary that the arrangements for dealing with the newly introduced statistical card system and with patients' estates were working satisfactorily and that these items, by them-

selves, had not necessitated an increase in administrative staff.

The nursing staff consists of 135 male and 66 female nurses, of whom 14 of the former and 13 of the latter are on duty each night. There are 25 ward orderlies on the female side, of whom one does night duty. Thirty female nurses are employed on a part-time basis by day. Eighty-four male and 36 female nurses are certificated or registered as mental nurses, while six nurses of each sex have passed the Preliminary Examination. There are 12 ward maids on the female side, of whom six are engaged for part-time duties. Plans for additional accommodation for female nurses have been submitted by the Committee, but it is feared that, owing to the economic situation, little progress in this direction can be hoped for.

Dr. Barber is assisted by Dr. Johnston (now away sick) as Deputy Medical Superintendent and by Dr. D. C. Dewar as Physician, and Drs. E. S. Foote and H. G. Collins as Assistant Physicians. Drs. D. M. Stewart and R. C. Cooke hold appointments as Registrars and there are two other assistant medical officers.

CYRIL F. PENTON,
Senior Commissioner.

R. G. ANDERSON,
Commissioner of the Board of Control.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

ST. JOHN'S VICARAGE,
WOKING,
SURREY.

As Chaplain, I have little to report beyond the fact that the work of the Chaplaincy has followed the usual lines.

The Chapel and Ward Services have been regularly held and they have been well attended. Visiting in the Wards has been systematic but the limited hours of part-time Chaplaincy make it difficult for us to give adequate care and attention to such a large Hospital.

I have had the assistance of two colleagues for most of the year.

I have found the Hospital Staff most helpful at all times, and I have much appreciated their interest and support.

HOWARD G. EDMONDS,
Chaplain.

NONCONFORMIST CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

Divine worship has been held on Thursdays at 6 p.m. throughout the year. Attendance has been good except when special events on the Hospital programme have coincided in time. These have been infrequent and, in my opinion, inevitable.

Patients are interested, take part in the worship freely and with evident appreciation. The Service is of simple character, my aim being to make it suitable and intelligible to all who attend.

Mr. D. McCall's co-operation as organist is most helpful and sympathetic.

I have visited the Wards as occasion required. Patients talk to me quite freely. Requests are sometimes made regarding matters not in my sphere, these I have to answer—or evade—as tactfully as maybe, but sometimes I come away feeling that private conversation has done as much good as has the public Service.

My interest in this work grows with experience of it. I am convinced that good has been accomplished.

A. G. KICK,
Minister in Charge, Brookwood Methodist Church.

CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

ST. DUNSTAN'S,

HEATHSIDE CRESCENT,

WOKING, SURREY.

27th February, 1950.

Throughout 1949, Tuesday has continued to be the regular visiting day for the Catholic priest. There has been a Service in the Catholic Chapel at 2.30 p.m., followed by visits to patients in the wards. On the first Tuesday of each month Holy Mass has been celebrated at 7.30 a.m., with opportunity for Confession beforehand. Mass has been said also on the Greater Festivals of the year—except those which fall on a Sunday. The present shortage of clergy makes it impossible to satisfy the undoubted need for Mass in the hospital on Sundays.

Attendance at services has shown a slight increase in the past year, averaging 20-25. Christmas morning saw a record attendance (including staff) of 103 persons. Patients have sometimes complained that having been given permission to come to Chapel they have been unable to do so because no one would escort them. While this may be true in a few cases, I consider that in general the staff are very willing to assist patients in practising their religion, which can often be such a help in restoring health of mind.

There were some 30 calls during the year to administer the Last Sacraments to patients in danger of death.

J. W. GRANT,

Chaplain.

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